United Nations A/69/971–S/2015/499

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
2 June 2015

Original: English

**General Assembly**
**Sixty-ninth session**
Agenda items 33 and 38

**Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development**

**The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan**

**Security Council**
**Seventieth year**

## Letter dated 1 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to the following.

As reported, on 15 June 2015, President Serzh Sargsyan of the Republic of Armenia officially approved the rotation between the Deputy Chief of General Staff of the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia and the so-called "minister of defence" of the separatist regime.

This is one of many examples of the integration between high-level political and military echelons of the Republic of Armenia and the separatist regime. It, along with other plentiful evidence, proves that the Republic of Armenia effectively controls the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The note on the case is attached (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 38, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-11185 (E) 090715

Please recycle

## Annex to the letter dated 1 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As is known, in its attempts to mislead the international community and distort the root causes, essence and consequences of the armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia has repeatedly stated, including within the United Nations and other international organizations, that it has not taken part in the military actions and in the seizure of the territories of Azerbaijan; that it has no military presence in the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan; and that the unlawful separatist entity it has established in those territories is "a sovereign and independent state".

Numerous facts testify to a situation diametrically opposite to what Armenia asserts, and the movement of personnel in political and military leadership echelons on the highest possible level between Armenia and the separatist entity ("NKR") is among such facts. The most recent example includes the rotation this June, formally approved by President Serzh Sargsyan of the Republic of Armenia, between the Deputy Chief of General Staff of the armed forces of Armenia, Levon Mnatsakanian, and the "minister of defence" of the so-called "NKR", Movses Akopyan.

Indeed, among other numerous indicators, the integration between Armenia and its subordinate separatist regime in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan has been repeatedly evidenced by the number of politicians who have assumed the highest offices in Armenia after previously having held similar positions in the "NKR". Several senior Armenian politicians have held, at different times, high positions in both the Republic of Armenia and the so-called "NKR" or have otherwise had close ties to Nagorno-Karabakh. The first President of the Republic of Armenia, Levon Ter-Petrosyan, was a member of the Armenian "Karabakh Committee", which, in the late 1980s, led the movement for unification of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan with Armenia. In April 1998, he was succeeded as President of Armenia by Robert Kocharyan, who had previously served as "prime minister" and "president" of the so-called "NKR" from August 1992 to December 1994 and from December 1994 to March 1997, respectively, and as Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia from March 1997 to April 1998. In April 2008, Serzh Sargsyan became the third President of Armenia. In August 1993, he had been appointed Minister of Defence of Armenia after having served from 1989 to 1993 as chairman of the so-called "NKR self-defence forces committee". Furthermore, the career of the current Minister of Defence of Armenia, Seyran Ohanyan, is also remarkable, especially as far as his frequent service movements between Armenia and the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan are concerned. Thus, he served in various positions in the so-called "NKR military command structures" from 1992 to 1998, before being appointed as commander of the 5th army corps of the armed forces of Armenia. The next year, he was appointed "minister of defence" of the so-called "NKR", a position which he left in 2007 to become first Deputy Minister of Defence-Chief of General Staff of the armed forces of Armenia. Since 2008, Seyran Ohanyan has served as Minister of Defence of Armenia.

In such circumstances, a reasonable conclusion is that the present de jure top organs of Armenia were its de facto organs even while hoisting the banner of the

so-called "NKR". If Yerevan itself looks upon a leadership role in the so-called "NKR" as a natural stepping stone on the path of career-building within Armenia — there being no temporal interludes or other partitions dividing Armenia and the so-called "NKR" — the latter should be considered a mere backyard of Armenia, and the two should be regarded as inseparable.

Armenia's persistent denial of its responsibility for the unlawful occupation of and military presence in the territories of Azerbaijan has been effectively put to an end by the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights in its judgement (Merits) of 16 June 2015 on the case of *Chiragov and Others* v. *Armenia* (application No. 13216/05). The Court ruled in favour of the applicants, who are the six Azerbaijani nationals forcibly displaced from the occupied Lachin district of Azerbaijan during the Armenian aggression, recognizing continuing violations by Armenia of a number of their rights under the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

Having examined the evidence presented, including that relating to the movement of personnel in leadership echelons between Armenia and the so-called "NKR", the Court confirmed that "the Republic of Armenia, through its military presence and the provision of military equipment and expertise, has been significantly involved in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict from an early date", that "[t]his military support has been — and continues to be — decisive for the conquest of and continued control over the territories in issue" and that "... the evidence ... convincingly shows that the armed forces of Armenia and the 'NKR' are highly integrated". Based on this and other evidence testifying to the political, financial and other dependence of the separatist entity from Armenia, the Court concluded that "... the Republic of Armenia, from the early days of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, has had a significant and decisive influence over the 'NKR', that the two entities are highly integrated in virtually all important matters and that this situation persists to this day" and that "the 'NKR' and its administration survives by virtue of the military, political, financial and other support given to it by Armenia which, consequently, exercises effective control over Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding territories, including the district of Lachin".

Thus, the fact of military occupation and effective control of the territories of Azerbaijan by Armenia is undisputed. The Court simply confirmed what long ago became a matter of general repute and public knowledge.

Rather than seeking ways to prolong the status quo of occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan, Armenia must reconsider its unconstructive stance that will be more and more difficult to stick to, especially in light of the recent judgement of the European Court of Human Rights. The sooner Armenia reconciles with the reality, the earlier the conflict will be resolved and the countries and the peoples in the region will benefit from the prospects of cooperation and economic development. The Republic of Azerbaijan once again calls on the Armenian side, instead of wasting time and misleading its own people and the international community, to cease its policy of aggression and ethnic cleansing and to engage constructively in the conflict settlement process and comply with its international obligations.

United Nations A/69/972

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 July 2015

Original: English

**Sixty-ninth session**
Agenda item 118
**Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly**

# Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

## Report of the Secretary-General

*Summary*

The present report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 5 (d) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316. It contains the draft programme of work of the plenary for the seventieth session of the General Assembly. The draft programmes of work of five of the six Main Committees of the Assembly, which were adopted by the Assembly, can be found in the respective decisions of the Assembly. The status of documentation will be issued as an addendum to the present report.

15-11287 (E) 090715

Please recycle

# I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in paragraph 5 (d) of the annex to its resolution 58/316 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the Assembly, decided that in July of each year the General Committee would conduct a review of the proposed programme of work for the forthcoming session of the Assembly, on the basis of a report submitted by the Secretary-General, and would also submit recommendations on the matter to the Assembly at its forthcoming session. The report would include information on the status of documentation to be issued during the forthcoming session.

2. The present report has been prepared in response to that request.

3. The draft programmes of work of the Main Committees, with the exception of the Fifth Committee,[1] have been approved by the respective Committees and were adopted by the General Assembly in the following decisions: First Committee (decision 69/520); Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (decision 69/525); Second Committee (decision 69/548); Third Committee (decision 69/539); and Sixth Committee (decision 69/529).

4. With a view to assisting the General Committee and the General Assembly in their efforts to maximize both effectiveness and efficiency, the present report contains the draft programme of work of only the plenary for the seventieth session. The draft programmes of the Main Committees are available in the respective decisions.

5. The status of documentation will be issued as an addendum to the present report.

# II. Draft programme of work of the plenary for the seventieth session of the General Assembly

**First week (14-18 September)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Tuesday p.m. | Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly [1][2] |
| | Minute of silent prayer or meditation [2] |
| | Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee [3 (a)] |
| Wednesday | Meeting of the General Committee |

[1] The Fifth Committee has not taken a decision on this matter.

[2] Items and their numbers cited herein are from the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the seventieth session (A/70/50). All items are pending approval by the General Assembly at its seventieth session for their inclusion in the agenda and allocation for consideration. Some items that are on the preliminary list but not reflected in this draft programme are omitted either in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the Assembly or for scheduling at a later date.

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday | Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: first report of the General Committee [7] |
| **Second week (21-27 September)** | |
| Wednesday | *Official United Nations holiday (Eid al-Adha)* |
| | [Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences] |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Friday-Sunday | High-level plenary meeting: United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda (resolution 69/244) [15 and 117] |
| **Third week (28 September-3 October)** | |
| Monday-Saturday | Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization [110][2] |
| | General debate [8][3] |
| **Fourth week (5-9 October)** | |
| Monday-Wednesday | General debate [8] |
| **Fifth week (12-16 October)** | |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Monday | Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization [110] |
| | [Promotion of justice and international law; Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Tuesday | Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [77]; Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [78]; International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals [129]: joint debate |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |

[3] As the first item before the opening of the general debate, the Secretary-General will present his report on the work of the Organization.

| | |
|---|---|
| Thursday | Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council [113 (a)][4] |
| | [Development of Africa; Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences] |
| Friday | New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support [67 (a) and (b)]; 2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa [14]: joint debate |
| **Sixth week (19-23 October)** | |
| | [Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Monday | 1. Sport for development and peace: Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal [12 (a)] |
| | 2. Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade [119] |
| Tuesday | 1. Report of the Economic and Social Council [9]; Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [15]: joint debate |
| | 2. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [117]: specific meeting focused on development (resolution 60/265) |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Wednesday | Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council [113 (b)][5] |
| Thursday | The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy [118] |
| Friday | *United Nations Day Concert* |

[4] In accordance with paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 68/307, the election of non-permanent members of the Security Council for a two-year term beginning in 2017 will be held during the resumed seventieth session.

[5] In accordance with paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 68/307, the election of members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning in 2017 will be held during the resumed seventieth session.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Seventh week (26-30 October)** | |
| | [Maintenance of international peace and security] |
| Tuesday | Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba [42] |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Wednesday | 1. Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination [114 (a)] |
| | 2. Election of eighteen members of the Human Rights Council [114 (e)] |
| | [Maintenance of international peace and security] |
| Thursday | The situation in Afghanistan [39] |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Friday | Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters [122] |
| **Eighth week (2-6 November)** | |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Monday | Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations [120]; Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [121]: joint debate |
| | [Promotion of justice and international law] |
| Thursday a.m. | Report of the International Court of Justice [76] |
| Friday a.m. and p.m. | Report of the International Criminal Court [79] |
| **Ninth week (9-13 November)** | |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Monday | 1. Election of thirty members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law [114 (b)] |
| | 2. Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences [115 (e)] |
| | 3. Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit [115 (f)] |
| | [Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences] |

| | |
|---|---|
| Tuesday | Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly [28 (a)] (High-level plenary meeting to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development (resolution 69/143)) |
| | [Organizational, administrative and other matters; Maintenance of international peace and security] |
| Thursday | 1. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations [112] |
| | 2. Report of the Security Council [30] |
| | [Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Friday | Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [15]; Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [117]; Strengthening of the United Nations system [123]; United Nations reform: measures and proposals [124]: joint debate |
| **Tenth week (16-20 November)** | |
| | [Promotion of human rights] |
| Monday | Report of the Human Rights Council [68] |
| | [Disarmament] |
| Tuesday | Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [88] |
| Wednesday | 1. Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal [115 (g)] |
| | 2. Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal [115 (h)] |
| Thursday | Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him [130] |
| **Eleventh week (23-27 November)** | |
| | [Maintenance of international peace and security] |
| Monday p.m.-Tuesday a.m. and p.m. | 1. Question of Palestine [38] |
| | 2. The situation in the Middle East [37] |
| Thursday | *Official United Nations holiday (Thanksgiving)* |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Twelfth week (30 November-4 December)** | |
| | [Maintenance of international peace and security] |
| Thursday | The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict [33] |
| **Thirteenth week (7-14 December)** | |
| | [Promotion of justice and international law] |
| Tuesday | Oceans and the law of the sea [80 (a) and (b)] |
| | [Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Wednesday | 1. Improving global road safety [13] |
| | 2. Global health and foreign policy [126] |
| | 3. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin [10] |
| | [Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts] |
| Thursday | Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance [74 (a) to (d)] |
| | Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence [75]: joint debate |
| | [Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Maintenance of international peace and security; Organizational, administrative and other matters] |
| Monday | 1. Culture of peace [16] |
| | 2. Prevention of armed conflict [34 (a) and (b)] |
| | 3. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development [35] |
| | 4. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic [36] |
| | 5. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan [40] |

6. Election of two members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission [114 (d)]

7. Report of the Credentials Committee [3 (b)]

8. Information and communications technologies for development [17] (two-day high-level meeting: overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (resolution 68/302))

(14 December — end of 13 weeks)

**Plenary items not scheduled for debate**

Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the political declarations on HIV/AIDS [11]

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission [31]; Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund [111]: joint debate

Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte [41]

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance [71]

Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme [114 (c)]

Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [114 (f)]

Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union [125]